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2008-08-20

Xavier University Newswire

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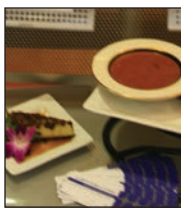
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NEWS, pg 2

Who's who at XU

A brief primer of Xavier's notable names and faces.



CAMPUS NEWS, pg 3

Changes at Xavier

Campus spins forever down the ringing grooves of change.

ALWAYS ONLINE:

xavier.edu/
newswire

Manresa set to meet mentalist

Mainstay 'extraordinist' promises 'wild and unusual' Saturday night

INTERVIEW

BY JOHN LAFOLLETTE

Editor-in-Chief

Craig Karges is a renowned entertainer and frequent headliner of freshman orientations at colleges and universities around the country.

The National Association for Campus Activities named him Entertainer of the Year six times, and Variety Entertainer of the year 12 consecutive times. Campus Activities Magazine has named him Best Male Performer, Best Solo Act, Best Novelty Act and Best Performing Arts Attraction, as well as a four-time Entertainer of the Year.

In 2003, Karges became the fifth member of the National Campus Entertainment Hall of Fame.

He is a mainstay of Xavier's Manresa program having played Manresa for some 15 years. Manresa is one of Karges' oldest and most consistent gigs.

He will take the stage at Cintas Center, at 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 23.

The Xavier Newswire: I'm sure you've been called many things in your professional life. What is it that you do, exactly?

Craig Karges: Technically, I'm an extraordinist—a guy who does extraordinary things on stage for your entertainment.

I guess you could also say that I'm a cross between a magician and a psychic, although I don't like either of those labels; they're too limiting.

Newswire: How did you get into this line of work?

Karges: My uncle was my mentor and taught me the basics behind everything I do on stage. I worked with him for almost two years when I was 13-14 years old.

He passed away, and I refined my skills and started to perform professionally at age 16.

I paid my way through college (Marshall University) by doing shows, earned a degree in broadcast journalism and then hit the road and never looked back.

Newswire: At what point did you realize that you had more than an ordinary mastery of your mind?

Karges: I'm not sure I do! I've learned to access different ways of thinking thanks to my uncle. He was actually my great-uncle and wasn't a "blood"



Photo courtesy of Craig Karges

Self-proclaimed "extraordinist" Craig Karges has made his Manresa show a yearly tradition and a must-see for incoming freshmen. He's promised a "wild" show, set to include a hidden spike and his fast-moving hand.

relation. He was married to my grandmother's sister.

Seeing him work was a great motivator and inspiration for me.

When I started to be able to emulate some of his skills I was extremely excited! I was about 13 at the time.

Newswire: How has your performance evolved over the years?

Karges: The addition of new material, and more diverse performing situations.

Currently, I'm working more on my one-man theater show version of "Experience the Extraordinary."

I tour this in theaters and performing arts centers around the country. We ship in a special set, the show is done in two acts with a total running time (including intermission) of almost two hours.

I actually spend most of my time now on the corporate circuit. I perform as an entertainer but I also offer a program called "Ignite Your Intuition," which teaches people how to make the most of their intuitive minds and increase their memory capacity.

I'm working more and more in that area. It's an off shoot of my first book, "Ignite Your

Intuition."

Newswire: What is your worst experience on stage?

Karges: Up until last August, shredding my check on stage. I do this thing where my check is placed in one of three envelopes. An audience member shreds two of them, and if they shred my check I don't get paid. It's happened four times.

I do another demonstration where a spike is hidden under one of four cups. I'm blindfolded, the cups are mixed and I smash my hand down on three of the four cups missing the spike.

Last August at Central Michigan University I rammed the spike through my hand. I think that now qualifies as the worst experience on stage.

I don't do both demonstrations in the same show. This year at Xavier I think I'm scheduled to do the spike!

Newswire: Have you ever met your mental match? Has an audience member ever had his or her mind clouded by excitement, or something, to the point that you couldn't perform?

Karges: A lot of what I do is dependent on my volunteers following directions and sincerely trying to work with me. If they

try to intentionally trick me up they can.

Usually I can recover or I have an out but it's always tricky working with strangers on stage.

Newswire: Does it bother you that some people think your act is a charade, or are you comfortable, as I am, to simply pray for the non-believers?

Karges: I don't ask anyone to believe in what I do—it's just a show. I say that at least three times during the course of the performance.

If someone thinks it's all a trick, that's fine with me. My job isn't to convince anyone to believe in anything it's just to entertain the audience.

The only thing I want people to accept is the fact that I don't set up or prearrange anything with anyone or that I use hidden electronics in the show.

I have a \$100,000 offer, payable to charity, if someone can prove I use stooges or hidden electronics.

In reality about a third of what I do is a magic trick, about a third is good sound psychology and about a third is true intuition.

Newswire: In two words or less, is it real?

Karges: Sort of.

Class of 2012 arrives

BY MADELINE LAFAYE

Features Editor

Xavier Facebook is here. At least for the 870 incoming freshmen it is.

With an 8.7 percent increase in applicants over last year a website for accepted freshman students, "Road to Xavier," is a possible reason for this jump.

Improved over the simplicity of freshman web access forums from previous years, communication on the "Road to Xavier" website for admitted students this year has skyrocketed, according to Marianne Borgmann, the university's director of admissions.

This year, each accepted student was issued a username and password to set up an online profile to be used as a communication tool for student-to-student and Xavier-to-student correspondence prior to the beginning of the school year.

Class of 2012: A Snapshot

Applicants: 6,139

Accepted: 4,697 (76%)

Expected class of 2012: 870

Female: 51%

Male: 49%

Percentage of first-generation students: over 21%

States represented: 33

Countries represented: 11

Percentage of minority students: 19%

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DO:

BY EMILY HOFERER
Managing Editor

1. Get involved: If you just go to class, the caf and your dorm room you won't meet people at all. Getting involved is a great way to meet other students (including upperclassmen who will invite you to their parties). Take advantage of Club Day on the Mall and sign up for anything and everything.

2. Always say 'yes': Whenever you are invited to go places with other people always say yes. Your homework can wait for an hour if your hallmates are going on a late night run to PRC (Pleasant Ridge Chili) and even if you won't know many people at a party, you shouldn't be afraid to go anyway.

3. Get to know Norwood and Cincinnati: I know Norwood can look a little rough, but you shouldn't judge this book by its cover! There are lots of hidden gems in the town. Also, if you explore Cincinnati, you may be surprised with what you find.

4. Actually go to class: There are many exciting things about college, but class isn't always one of them, however it is the reason that you (or your parents) are shelling out the cash. Going to class will keep you here. Besides, you never know what crazy professor you have, what you'll end up discussing or who you'll meet in class.

5. Stay informed on Xavier happenings: There are many ways to know what's happening on campus, and it's better to be in the know than out of the loop. Check the portal daily for list of important announcements, sign up for XU Alert Me and read *the Newswire* on a weekly basis.

What should I do at college?

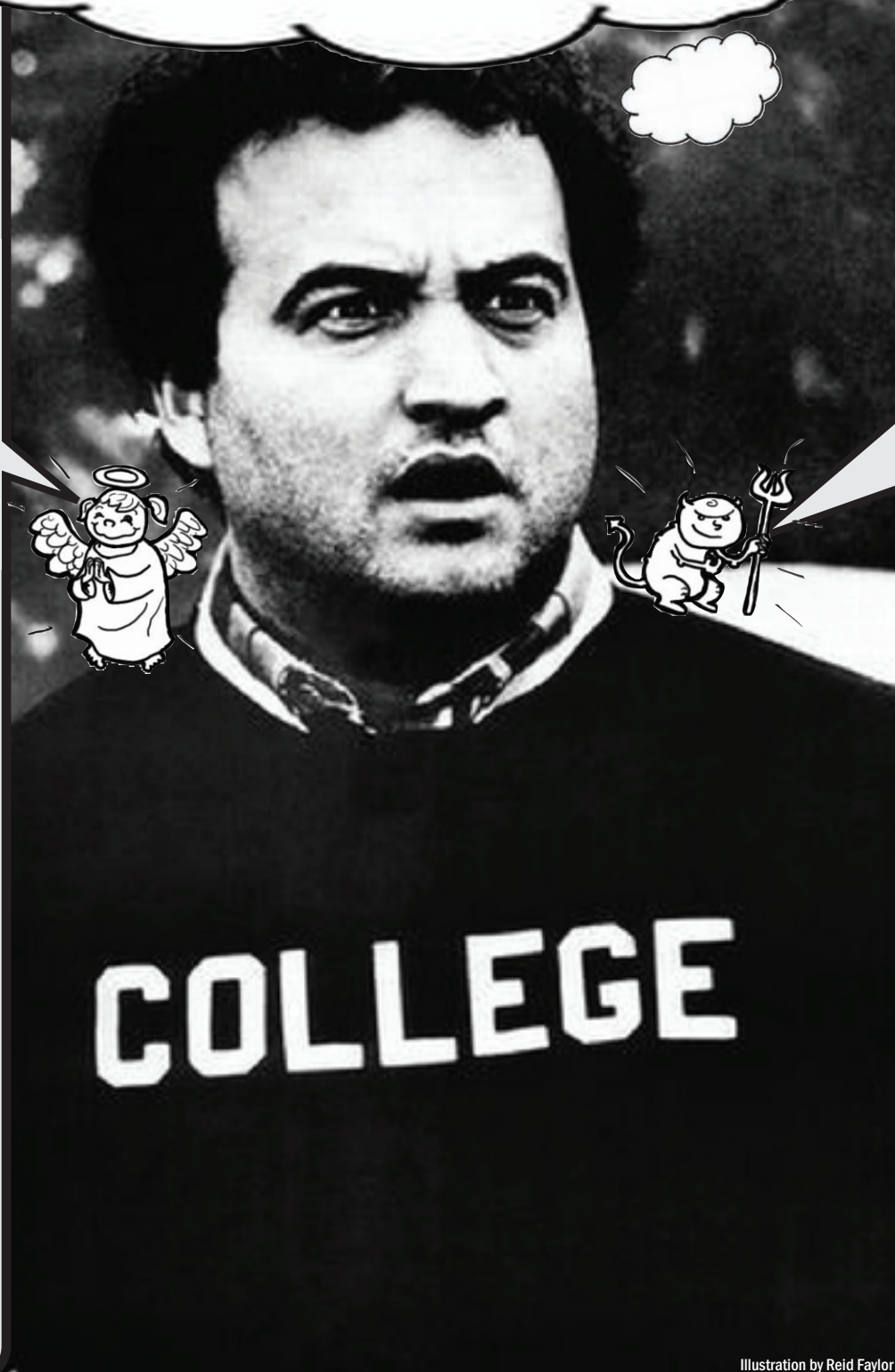


Illustration by Reid Faylor

DON'T:

BY MADELINE LAFAYE
Features Editor

1. Be "too cool" for anything or anyone: The best thing about college, is that it's not like high school. Everyone in college is cool because of his or her differences, not in spite of them.

2. Don't neglect your body: If you plan on eating in the Caf and drinking (soda) on the weekends, keep in mind these may be new and calorie-filled activities. Keep your body movin' if you want to avoid the cliché freshman 15.

3. Keep your dorm room door closed: One of the easiest ways to meet people is to live in the dorms. Try to leave your door open as much as possible and use it as an excuse to talk to those studs and babes from down the hall.

4. Totally cut off communication from your parents: We know, you're finally free and it's awesome. But keep in mind that even though your parents may secretly be celebrating their newfound freedom, Mom's crying at home at least a little. Call every once in awhile and not just when you need something.

5. Take Xavier for granted: Get ready for four of the best years of your life. You are now part of the Xavier family...a baby musketeer that will be thrown into Musketeerdom and college life. You will soon learn the basketball cheers, the best party houses, what not to do when the RA makes rounds, how awesome small class sizes really are and so much more.

The Newswire's who's who at XU

BY KATIE ROSENBAUM
News Editor



Newswire photo by Erika Bresee

Craig Scanlon is a senior political science and theology major who will serve as the Student Government Association president for 2008-09. He is also an RA in the Commons Apartments. Why should you know Craig Scanlon?

Scanlon and all of SGA make decisions regarding club funding, many educational and social activities.

Director for Student Success and Retention Adrian Schiess' job is to act as the freshman advocate to work with students to make sure that they have a successful first year and come back to Xavier.

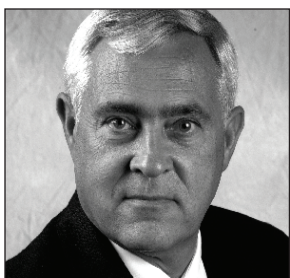


Photo courtesy of xavier.edu

Why should you know Adrian Schiess?

Schiess works with students and is able to direct them toward other resources that can help them with academic, financial or personal issues.

Aaron Marble is a junior human resource major with a theology minor who is serving as the student rights representative, Black Student Association's and among other things.

Why should you know Aaron Marble?

As student rights representative, Marble works for you. He is a student advocate for students face disciplinary hearings.



Photo courtesy of Aaron Marble



Newswire photo by John LaFollette

Jessica Pacionek, a senior social work major with an English minor, is the student director of diversity and the Legislative Secretary of BSA. She is also involved with S.T.A.R., which provides students with service opportunities.

Why should you know Jess Pacionek?

Pacionek is involved with many activities, which give her a wealth of experience that she is always willing to share.

Father Albert Bischoff, S.J. is the resident Jesuit in Husman Hall. He is involved with Campus Ministry, retreats and presides over the 4 p.m. mass on Sundays.

Why should you know Father B?

Father B can be seen all over campus and will greet you with his signature greeting of "Hello, Saint!"



Photo courtesy of xavier.edu

The Blue Blob is one of Xavier's two mascots who cheers at all Xavier basketball games, which we won in a Crosstown Shootout game, an annual game against Xavier's rival, the University of Cincinnati.



Photo courtesy of graphics.fansonly.com

Why should you know the Blue Blob?

He is a source of pride as it was won in a game against UC. Also, it is a TV star starring in two SportsCenter commercial last year.

While you were graduating...



The new Chartwells display outside of Ryan's Eatery and Pub.

BY JOHN LAFOLLETTE
Editor-in-Chief

There have been a number of changes to Xavier since the current freshmen likely made their initial visits. Here is a quick rundown.

Change in food service provider

After its contract with Sodexo expired last school year, Xavier accepted bids for a new food service provider in the Hoff Dining Center.

The victor was Chartwells, a company who also serves food at Northern Kentucky, Miami (FL), and Louisiana State Universities.

So far, an “Xpress” location has replaced the old Toni’s Little Italy station in the ground level of the Gallagher Student Center.

The station will service carry-out orders from Ryan’s Eatery and Pub (formerly “Ryan’s Sports Café”, formerly “Ryan’s Pub”), which itself has undergone a menu overhaul.

The new menu will include items ranging from various appetizers, soups and salads to signature flatbread pizzas, sandwiches and wraps, new grille options and a new line of specialty desserts.

The DineOnCampus website also boasts helpful tools to help track students’ track their health.

Brockman renovation

Brockman Hall, the oldest dorm at Xavier and the only dorm reserved exclusively for freshmen, received a face-lift over the summer.

All of the dorm rooms were updated and freshened. A new elevator was installed in addition to a new fire alarm system with sprinklers and a public address system.

Additionally, the building is now accessible to people with a handicap.

To the relief of all concerned, contractors overcame initial worries that the renovations would not be completed by the time freshmen moved in.

Exam calendar change

Arguably one of the crowning achievements of the previous Student Government Association Executive Board, a new exam schedule will be in place this school year.

The new schedule, which takes effect for final exams this December, will include a study day on Monday of exam week. Exams will begin on Tuesday and end on Friday.

In previous years, final exams began on the Monday of exam week and ran through Thursday.

The change was made to provide students with an additional long weekend, during which it is assumed students will prepare for their finals.

While the new schedule has philosophical benefits, one downside is exam’s week close proximity to the much-anticipated Xavier vs. Duke basketball game scheduled for Dec. 20.

Fans will have their travel time to New Jersey reduced by a day with the new exam schedule.

Xavier’s campus: A year in events

BY AMY WINDHORST
Campus News Editor

Each year, Xavier offers students a variety of unique activities. Below are a few notables events.

Club Day on the Mall

When: Monday, Sept. 8, 2008
Where: The greenspace

Each year, Xavier clubs gather for Club Day on the Mall—a chance for each of Xavier’s clubs to show off for the student body. For new students, this is the perfect chance to get involved in one (or many) of Xavier’s student groups.

There are over 100 student groups on campus—if you’re interested in language, politics, faith or service, look no further. In the time between classes, pause and take a look at what’s being offered by our campus organizations this year.

Shantytown

When: Fall 2008
Where: Academic Mall

Shantytown is a week-long event that seeks to bring awareness to homelessness.

Volunteer groups construct and dwell in “shanty” houses made of cardboard, tape, tarp and other basic materials.

This provides a difficult-to-ignore visual of homelessness, as the shanties line the path in the academic mall.

Previously, interested groups have donated \$25 or more in order to participate.

Diwali

When: Fall 2008
Where: Gallagher Student Theater

Diwali is a night of entertainment and celebration hosted by the campus’ South Asian Society. In



Shantytown houses line the academic mall in the fall.

most popular events on Xavier’s campus. Be sure to check out their Midwest Masala in the spring.

The Crosstown Shootout

When: Spring 2009
Where: University of Cincinnati Campus

Easily the most popular sporting event on campus, the Crosstown Shootout is the annual basketball match between rivals Xavier University and the

week in advance in order to witness the Crosstown game firsthand. Watch our Sports section for more information in the coming months.

The Crosstown Helpout

When: Spring 2009
Where: Various locations in Cincinnati

A spin-off of the Crosstown Shootout, the Helpout brings together University of Cincinnati and Xavier students in a day of volunteering.

Hosted by both schools’ alumni associations, the even takes students out into the city to participate in a morning of community service.

In a twist on the old rivalry, Xavier and UC students are purposefully grouped together in order to assist the greater Cincinnati community.

Workshop

When: Spring 2009
Where: Gallagher Student Theater

Calling all student playwrights, actors, and directors!

Workshop, Xavier’s own student-produced stage show, consists of several original plays by Xavier students, ranging from the deathly serious to the outright absurd.

For example, last year’s attendees might fondly recall “Xavier: The Musical,” a parody of Xavier life that was written, directed, and sung by Xavier students.

For all aspiring actors and writers, keep your eyes peeled for more information this spring.

This, of course, is only a sample of what Xavier has to offer.

Keep your eyes peeled for posters in Gallagher, the academic buildings and the cafeteria, as well as announcements on the MyXU portal; there’s always something going on around campus.



Students cheer on Xavier with Newswire handouts at the 2007-08 Crosstown Shootout.

Academic Day

When: Tuesday, Oct. 21, 2008
Where: Campus-Wide

For those of you more concerned about sleeping, this is your day.

Academic Day, which was initiated in 2001 by President Father Graham, is an event designed to place students’ focus on specific aspects of the Xavier Campus.

Throughout the course of the day, Graham and others host speeches and discussions on a specific academic theme (previous themes include “The Xavier Experience” and “Perspectives on Diversity”). Not to mention, classes are cancelled, making the holiday a cherished one among Xavier’s students.

addition to a stage show, which includes performances by club members, attendees also receive appetizers and a full Indian meal. Previously, tickets for this event have cost around \$5.

Formed in 2002, the South Asian Society has come to host some of the

University of Cincinnati. While last year the event was held on Xavier’s campus, Cincinnati is playing host to the fabled match in the 2008-09 season.

If you plan on nabbing tickets, be prepared for a long wait—enthusiastic students have been known to camp out as long as a



Student dancers perform at the 2007 Diwali Celebration in Gallagher.

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Editor-in-Chief & PublisherJOHN LAFOLLETTE

Managing EditorEMILY HOFERER

Mng. Editor for Special ProjectsKELLY SHAW

Business ManagerDAVID CRANSTON

Advertising ManagerELLIE JAQUETH

Classifieds ManagerJAMES CAVE

Ad Sales ManagerCHELSEY ALEXANDER

Distribution ManagerSKIP YOUNG

AdviserPATRICK LARKIN

Op-Ed Editor: DARREN LACOUR

Assistant Op-Ed Editor: KATHERINE MONASTERIO

Online & Design Editor: ANDREW CHESTNUT

Photo Editor: ERIKA BRESEE

Head Copy Editor: MADELINE LAFAVE

Copy Editors: REBECCA CONRAD, MONICA LACO, KATE PHILLIPS, SARAH WIETEN

STAFF EDITORIALS

Winds of change

Prospective students are often told that if they want to “get a good feel” for the campus of the university they are visiting, they should pick up a copy of the school newspaper.

It is regrettable that in years past, *the Newswire* (the independent student newspaper of Xavier University, published since 1915) has had a reputation for being run by outsiders and malcontents, and that its pages could hardly be called reflective of the university’s climate.

But in the Publications House, as in the Library, Brockman Hall, the cafeteria, Ledgewood Avenue and many other parts of campus, the winds of change have filled the air.

It is the stated goal of the new *Newswire* to be a broader institution—to offer news stories and other content that is more appealing to more people. Likewise, editorial praise and criticism will always be done with an eye toward improvement.

The Newswire, along with every member of the student body, is invested in the successes and shortcomings of Xavier University, and is the pledged medium for open and public discussion of both.

We should be seen, perhaps more than elected representatives and administrators, as a quick, effective way to communicate productively with the Xavier community. It is the hope of *the Newswire*, then, that the Xavier community embraces this change with the many others.

Balancing act

Dear freshmen,

Since we’ve been around since 1915, we’re old enough to know a thing or 93 about life as a college student. In addition to our most sincere welcome, please accept our advice for these four years: In college, as in life, it’s all about balance. As such,

- Mess up and learn from it, but learn to stop messing up.
- Take classes with legendary Xavier professors, but don’t start fan clubs. You wouldn’t be the first.
- Go to both Crosstown Shootouts at Cintas Center, but go easy on the Bearcats. They dont know any better.
- Make friends with your neighbors in Norwood, and not just so that they don’t call the cops on your parties.
- Volunteer because it’s more fun than being hungover. And don’t volunteer if you are hungover, because that’s no fun for anyone. Plus, you’re better than those UC clowns.
- Join a club that makes a difference, but don’t get caught up in your self-righteousness.
- Graduate with a degree you like, but explore its options so you don’t end up unemployed, envious and regretful.
- Write a letter to *the Newswire*, but make it a little more relevant than your unrequited pinings.
- Spend enough time with old books so that you know the classics, but not so much time that Homer and Shakespeare are your only friends.
- Stay up all night, but go to sleep before you start seeing things.
- Party hard, but not so hard you pee on the Campus Police.
- Spend enough time in a professor’s office that people start to wonder, but not enough that they’d be right.

In short, do a lot, but not so much that you can’t do what you’re doing well. Best wishes, Class of 2012,

The Xavier Newswire

On the Web: www.xavier.edu/newswire

The Xavier Newswire is published weekly throughout the school year, except during vacation and final exams, by the students of Xavier University, 3800 Victory Parkway, Cincinnati, OH 45207-2129.

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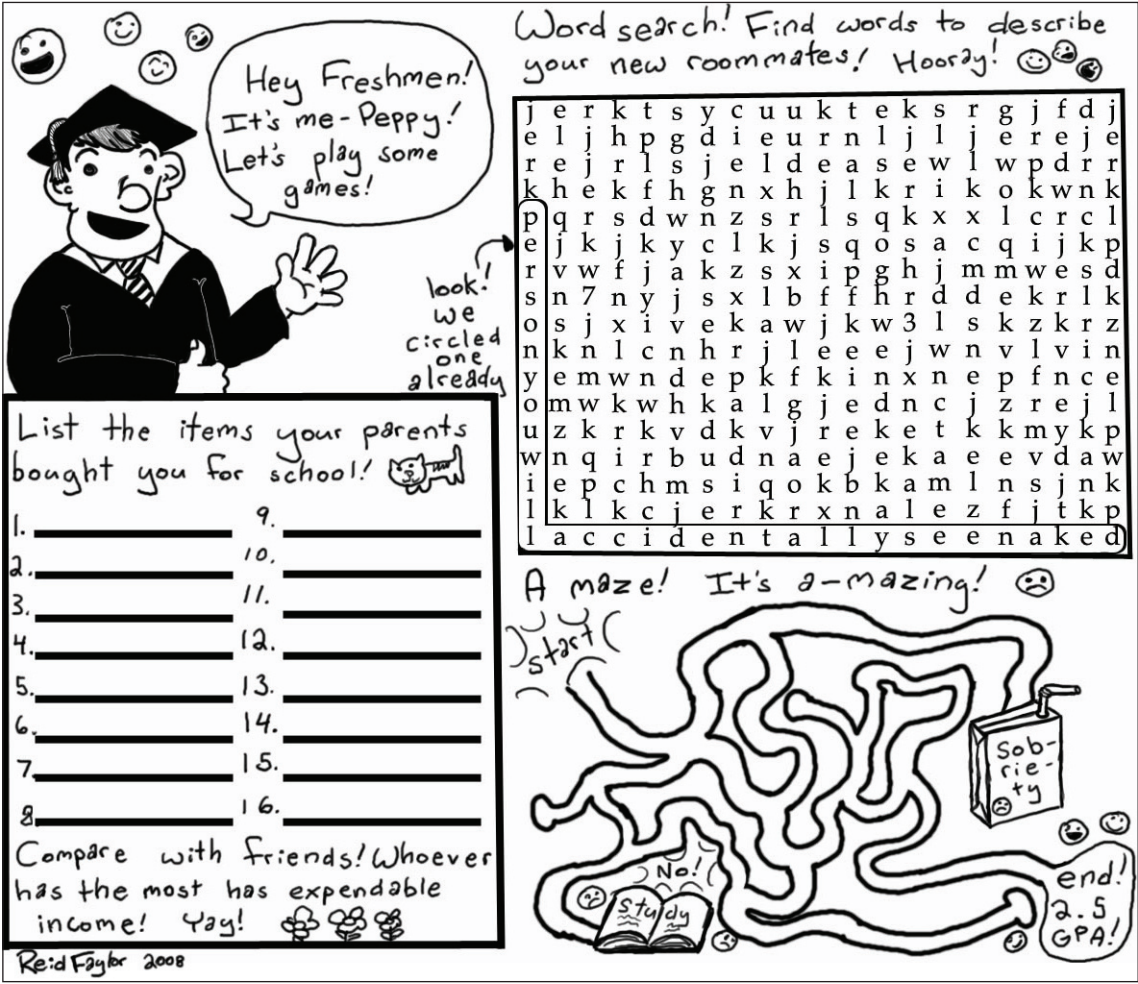
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One copy of *the Xavier Newswire*, distributed on campus, is free per person per week. Additional copies are 25 cents.

Xavier University is an academic community committed to equal opportunity for all persons.



LETTERS

Letters to the editor policy

This section of the Editorial page is the most important part of our newspaper. It’s where *the Newswire* becomes the community forum it’s intended to be.

Here in this section, we will print letters from non-*Newswire* staff members.

If you have an idea for an improvement on campus, wish to voice a complaint or raise your fellow students’ attention to a global, national or local issue, write into *the Newswire* and we will publish your piece here.

If you want to blast *the Newswire*, go right ahead. We’ll print criticism, just to show our commitment to the free expression of ideas.

Now, before you go off and running to write to your heart’s content, please note that we have a few guidelines and rules for aspiring letter writers:

- To submit a letter for publication, send the letter as the main text of an email to Newswire-Oped@xavier.edu. Alternatively,

if you visit our website at xavier.edu/newswire, you can follow the link to contact Darren LaCour, the Op-Ed editor, and fill out the form on that page.

- Letters must be submitted by the Monday prior to publication. Letters received on Tuesday are unlikely to be published that issue, as we publish the paper on Wednesday.

- Letters should be kept to a maximum of 250 words. Our reasons are simple: We can fit more people’s opinions, and it is hopefully more enticing to you to keep things short. Especially when you have papers you could work on...

- Letters must be signed; we will not print anonymous letters unless the writer has a legitimate concern for withholding his or her name.

- Please also include contact information. Your contact information will not be printed, but helps us ensure the validity of the letters we receive.

- *The Newswire* reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity.

- We are not obligated to print all the letters we receive, but we will ensure that all points of view expressed in the letters we receive are represented.

- Letters are more likely to be published if they are succinct and coherent, especially if they offer a unique point of view.

- If you are a student submitting a letter for publication, please include your class year. If you are an alumnus, please include your graduation year. Other parties wishing to write a letter to *the Newswire* must include their affiliation with the university.

- If you wish to submit a longer piece in the form of a column (no more than 500 words), you are more than welcome to do so, but contact the editor first.

- Please, no poetry. There are other outlets on campus for creative writing.

Write to us!

Don’t know what to write about? Here are some ideas:

- What do you think of the new look of campus since you last set foot here?
- When you visited campus and took a tour, did your guides feed you a load of crap?
- How do you feel about the changes taking place?
- Is XU fitting your preconceived notions of what college is supposed to be like?
- What do you want to see in your campus newspaper?

Newswire-Oped@xavier.edu

STAFF TALK: *When I was a freshman, I wish I had known...*

“...that the Comm department would fall apart.”

Katie Rosenbaum
News Editor

“...that “Nati” Light isn’t made in Cincinnati.”

Emily Hoferer
Managing Editor

“...all the basketball cheers before my first game—I looked like an idiot.”

David Cranston
Business Manager

“...to pick a major that I was passionate about, not just one that made a good salary. And to avoid the boys.”

Amy Windhorst
Campus New Editor

“...that the basketball team accepted walk-ons”

John LaFollette
Editor-in-Chief

The ‘glory’ of being a freshman

BY ANDREW CHESTNUT

Oline & Design Editor

When I was first asked to write about the “glory” of being a freshman, I almost laughed. That word is near the bottom of my list of phrases I would choose to describe what it is like to be frosh, just between “boring” and “similar to high school.”

However, Class of 2012, with your mini-fridges and space maximizers, this year will be a lot of other things; mainly things you don’t expect. The point of being a freshman is to encounter and deal with the unknown, not just in your classes, but in everyday life.

When you look back on your first year, you will remember how lame, benighted and embarrassing you were, but how fun it all seemed at the time. You won’t even realize that this is the worst part of college, because it will be so much better than high school. (And by the way, don’t be one of those people who goes home every weekend, only hangs out with their high school friends and doesn’t get involved at Xavier; if you limit yourself by remaining attached to home, you will miss out and end up hating these four years).

In retrospect, it will seem silly that you once wore the same hoodie every day for three months and had the same Bob Marley poster everyone else has. It will disturb you how much you once napped and how often you woke up confused.

The Caf food will seem good at first but will get old quickly and make you have to use the bathroom at an alarming frequency; by November you will forget what it means to enjoy food and eat solely to not be hungry.

You will deal with a level of awkwardness that nothing in your previous 18 years possibly could have prepared you for. Right now you know, at most, one tenth of 1 percent of the people here, which equates to a lot of unfamiliarity. You will meet people you already “know” from Facebook, but don’t want to admit it because you will seem creepy, so you introduce yourself anyway. You will see people you may have, ahem, spent the previous evening with and have no idea how to handle it smoothly. And of course, you are starting things off with Manresa, which is essentially a four-day awkwardness binge.

You will be vaguely sick for about a month, and will be diagnosed with an upper respiratory infection.

You will join a club and go to zero meetings.

You will burn through a semester-worth of board points in six weeks.

You will wander the streets of Norwood looking for a party, and sometimes you will find one, and sometimes you won’t. But either way, you will be under the fallacious impression that you are having a blast.

You will overdraft your debit card for the first time and panic hysterically. If you’re lucky, your parents will pay back the bank.

Having money will be a distant memory, a luxury from a bygone era when Chipotle didn’t seem like four star dining.

You will get lost in Cincinnati several times, wondering angrily why none of the roads go straight and change names every half mile.

Listen: Graduating high school seniors have their lives put together more than any other

people on the planet. They know where they are going to college and what they are doing with their lives. They have jobs and money and a car. They have a preferred political party and general philosophical outlook. The world basically makes sense.

Being a freshman is about your world being turned on its head. Your money and sometimes your car are taken away, but soon you will realize that your sense of self has disappeared. Nothing will make sense, and you, in turn, will be an undefined mess. It’s as much a part of the inevitable process as eating macaroni and cheese out of the same pot in which it was cooked.

If you want my sincere advice, here it is: accept the pain of the unknown.

Become an undefined mess.

Learn to like coffee and listen to as much new music as possible.

Befriend upperclassmen and get involved with something, anything, please.

Put your X-Box or PS3 in a box at the bottom of a closet and never, ever touch it.

Branch out from Xavier and familiarize yourself with the areas around Cincinnati (I recommend Hyde Park or Clifton).

Eat some sort of food you’ve never had before.

Visit your friends at other schools every now and then.

And don’t get to the basketball games ten minutes after tip-off wearing a pink or red shirt and stand there and not cheer; we will hate you for that.

Anyway, if ignorance truly is bliss, then this will be the best year of what you until now called your life. So enjoy it, and at the same time, let it make you better.

This is growing up

BY DARREN LACOUR

Opinions & Editorials Editor

Well, class of 2012, welcome to college.

College: This is it. That oft-dreamed of place where anything goes, where Mom and Dad are gone and terrible decisions can be made with (almost) no fear of parental punishment.

Where you’re responsible for your actions, where it’s up to you to go to class and wake up on time, where you get to shape the person you become.

Where, if you do it right, you finally grow up.

One thing they don’t tell you about college, though, is how tough that last part is going to be.

Here in college, everything you’ve ever believed, every truth you’ve taken for granted, everything that defines you, everything you thought you knew will all be put to the test.

Your theology classes aren’t going to spoon-feed you a belief system any more. They are going to pick apart your beliefs, to get you to ask why you believe the things you do.

But don’t think that because you’re not a theology major you won’t have to deal with this stuff. I’m talking about more than your religious beliefs; this goes for political beliefs, social beliefs, your entire worldview.

You are going to be presented opinions completely contrary to what you think is right. Your professors and fellow students will build cases for these opinions that seem immovable, and it will seem impossible to come up with reasons why anyone could believe anything different.

Your foundation will be shaken. If it’s weak and built on sand, it’ll topple over and your world might (seem to) collapse. But even foundations built on firm rock can crumble, especially when someone takes a sledgehammer to it.

Hey, don’t panic.

When your world stands in ruins around you, it’s easy—too easy—to abandon those things you once held dear and latch onto the ideas that tore yours apart,

because they were so effective at proving you wrong. But if you’ve been spoon-fed your beliefs your whole life, does it seem like a step forward to be spoon-fed the idea that everything you once believed is wrong?

I see it happen to Xavier students all the time: Their professor picks apart their foundation, offers a new and contrary alternative, and the students simply embrace this new idea with no reservations.

I’m begging you: Don’t walk away that easy. Sit and wait for the dust to clear. Realize that you can rebuild your foundation—with a few obvious improvements.

Throw away the weaker pieces and the ones that didn’t fit. Incorporate the ideas that challenged what you once thought and showed you things weren’t so simple. Try out a new mortar to hold it all together.

College is all about tearing down and building back up, but it’s a refinement, not a start-from-scratch kind of thing.

This isn’t about memorizing what someone else thinks or becoming a disciple of a certain worldview. This is about critically analyzing things to figure out what YOU stand for and what YOU believe. Which isn’t always easy, but is extremely satisfying.

I’m not writing this to freak you out, just trying to give you a heads up. I think that knowing what you’re in for goes a long way.

So now when you feel like a professor’s spewing off a load of crap, you’re not too surprised, and you’re ready to find the nuggets of truth in those turds. Not glamorous, but college never is.

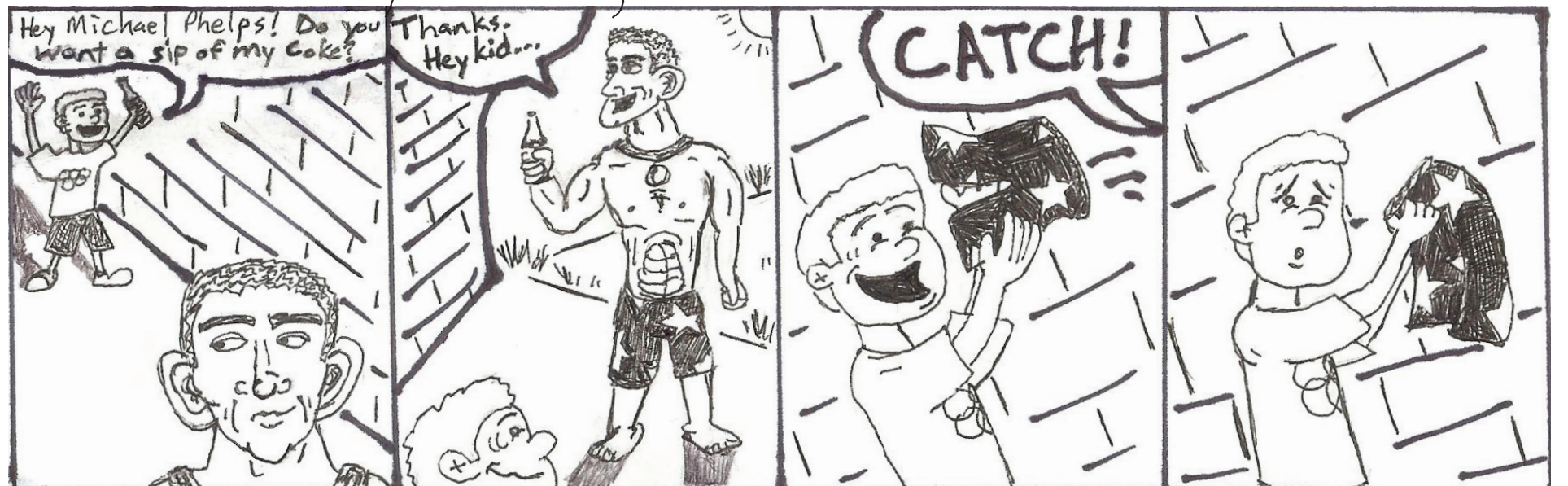
Take note that most of your professors aren’t going to be making stuff up. But they’re here to push you and to make you think, and many times that involves dealing with things you’d rather not think about.

Again, welcome to college. Live it up. Study hard. Party harder. Learn from your own mistakes and try not to bring others down with you.

And for God’s sake, people, THINK.

That’s why we’re here.

SO IT GOES *by Matt Kroeger*



BRIEFS

Doug Tifft, Editor
Sports Desk: 745-2878
newswire-sports@xavier.edu

Getting tickets is easy at Xavier

If you are a diehard Xavier athletics fan, and looking to score tickets to this year's events, then fear not. Getting tickets to Xavier events is an easy (and cheap) process.

If you love soccer, then you don't have to travel far to see some great matches, only to the Xavier University Soccer Complex right here on campus. Just show up at the games and present your All Card for free admission to cheer on either the women's or men's team.



photo courtesy goxavier.com

Senior keeper Adam Sokolowski will be in action for the men's soccer team this season.

Staying across Victory Parkway, your All Card is also your ticket to free admission to any Xavier baseball game at Hayden Field this spring, or any swimming meet at O'Connor Sports complex.

On the other side of Victory Parkway you can find the Xavier tennis courts, home of the men's and women's teams. Viewing for tennis events is also free to students.

The other on campus facility to catch sporting events is, of course, the Cintas Center. Cintas Center is home to the Xavier men's and women's basketball teams, as well as the volleyball team. Students can get into most volleyball games and women's basketball games the day of the event by presenting their All Card at the door.

Men's basketball operates a little differently because of the high volume of demand for student tickets, but it is still free and easy to support your team from the student section.

A ticket pick-up time and date will be designated for the upcoming events by the X-Treme Fans, and tickets will be passed out on a 'first come, first serve' basis at the ticket window of the Cintas Center at the designated time.

If you are a fan of the Cross Country, Track and Field, or golf teams your devotion for your team will have to carry you off campus, as these teams do not compete on campus and travel from site to site to compete in events.

XU athletics expects another strong year

BY DOUG TIFFT
Sports Editor

Xavier University has a long history of success in athletics, and perhaps no school year personified that as much as the 2007-08 year did.

Four Xavier teams made appearances in the NCAA Tournament in their respective sports and three won a conference championship. Here is a look at some of those teams from a season ago, and what the prospects for the upcoming year look like:

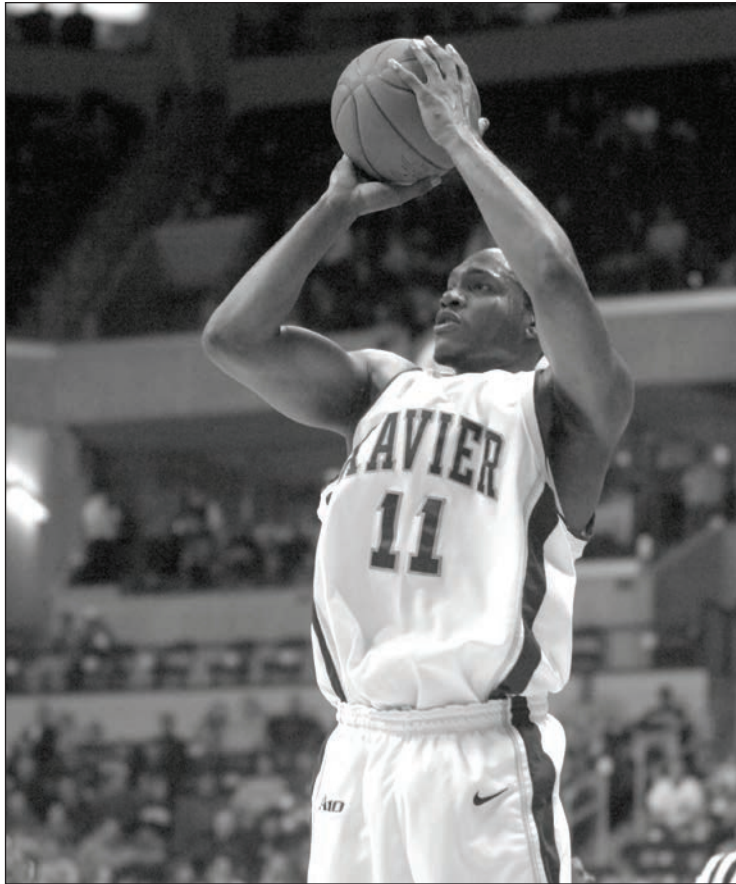
One of the more heralded of Xavier athletic teams is the **men's basketball** program. The men's basketball team won 30 games for the first time in school history last season, reaching the Elite Eight of the NCAA Tournament for the second time in five years.

Although the leadership core of Atlantic 10 Defensive Player of the Year Stanley Burrell, Sixth Man of the Year Josh Duncan and Atlantic 10 Second Team choice Drew Lavender have now moved on to the pros, the team is still stocked for another successful season in 2008-09.

Senior wings B.J. Raymond and C.J. Anderson are joined by 6'8" redshirt junior, and NBA Draft prospect, Derrick Brown to form this year's leadership triumvirate.

The 2008-09 version of the Musketeers will look significantly younger than their counterparts from a season ago, however. Five freshmen join the squad, including four star center Kenny Frease. The freshmen will be joined by two transfers, Jamel McLean from Tulsa and Andrew Taylor from Hillsdale.

The potential wildcard for the upcoming season will be the eligibility of Indiana transfer Jordan Crawford, who is one of five transfers from the Indiana program seeking eligibility this season as a result of the NCAA infractions committed by their former school. The eligibility of



Newswire photo by Erika Bresee

B.J. Raymond will be counted on to be one of the senior leaders of the 2008-09 Men's basketball team.

Crawford and the maturation of the freshman are two important factors that will determine the success of the 2008-09 Xavier Men's basketball team.

The **women's basketball** program had a successful season last year in their own right, winning the Atlantic 10 Tournament for the second consecutive year and coming up three points short of a first round victory against Nebraska in the NCAA Tournament, 61-58.

The core of that squad returns to build on that success, with first team all Atlantic 10 forward Amber Harris joined in the frontcourt once again by Atlantic 10 Freshman of the Year, and Second Team All-Conference center Ta'Shia Phillips. The team also has a reliable senior scorer on the wing in returning Atlantic 10 Sixth Person of the Year Tudy Reed.

Xavier also tasted NCAA play in **volleyball** in 2007 for the second time in school history. After

coming up short in the Atlantic 10 Tournament final to rival Dayton, the Musketeers received an at-large bid to the field of 64, but lost 3-0 against No. 17 Cal. Poly in the first round of the Tournament. This year's team will have to overcome the loss of Atlantic 10 Player of the Year Jill Quayle, but will rely on 2007 first team all-Atlantic 10 selection Kelly Ruth and senior Jenn Welsh to lead them.

The Xavier **men's tennis** program joined those reaching NCAA success this past season for the first time in program history. Led by A-10 Most Outstanding Performer Doug Mathews. Xavier toppled George Washington to reach the NCAA field, but fell to No. 15 Illinois in the first round. Mathews returns to lead this year's team along with Ra'ees Ismael, who set the Xavier mark for doubles wins this past season with 59.

The **women's tennis** team was not far behind their male counterparts, coming up just short of an NCAA berth with a loss in the Conference finals to Temple. Hopes are high for the women in 2008-09 as they return A-10 first team performer Kara Courtney, and second team all-conference members Jill Druco and Tifanie Treece.

Looking at this fall's slate of action, Xavier looks to be primed for an excellent season on the soccer fields. The **men's soccer** team opens their season Aug. 29 at home against crosstown rival Cincinnati, beginning their quest to qualify for the Atlantic 10 Championship, which they came up one point shy of a season ago. The 2008 squad returns 2007 leading scorer Brandon Bucher and adds Preseason A-10 All-Rookie center back Justin Jarvis.

The **women's soccer** team is looking to get back on the winning track this season as they return leading scorer and Atlantic 10 All Academic team member Melissa Zimmerman to a squad that finished 3-7-1 in Conference play last season.

The Xavier **cross country** team looks to improve on a third place finish for the Women in the Atlantic 10 Championship and an eighth place finish for the men. The women's squad will be led by returners Becky Clark, Christina Schneider and Caitlin Thomas, while the men's side will have to recover from the loss of All-Academic runner Ben Milroy with the help of Luke Beuerlein and Clinton Womack.

The **men's golf** team at Xavier is coming off a fourth place finish in the Atlantic 10, but looks to move up a few notches this season, led by preseason Cleveland Golf Division 1 All-American Mike Beausejour.

The **women's golf** team was respectable in their own right a season ago, finishing fifth at the CAA Championships. Redshirt junior Mary Beth McKenna and sophomores Kara Manis and Rachel Levi will be looked upon to step into the leadership roles for the Musketeers.

As the season turns to winter, the action at the O'Connor Sports Complex pool will heat up as the **swim team** looks to repeat strong finishes from a season ago. The women's team placed second, and the men's team third at the A-10 Championship in 2008-09 despite the disadvantage of lacking a diving squad. Sophomores Kari Peglar, Lindsey Barton, Bethanie Griffin and senior Mary Catherine Mahon lead the women's side, while senior Pat McGrath, junior Mark Febus and sophomore Nathan Green highlight the men's side.

The spring season is when Hayden Field begins to liven up as the Xavier **baseball** team returns to action. The Musketeers were a run short of a conference title a season ago, losing 4-3 to Charlotte in the A-10 Championship game in 11 innings. The Muskies will lose the services of pitchers Charlie Leesman and Michael Lucas along with catcher Dan Hayden, but will still be loaded with the power hitting Zac Richard and Danny Rosenbaum, Jordan Conley and John McCambridge.

Also in action this spring will be the Xavier **track and field** team. After setting eight school records at last season's Atlantic 10 Championship, the team returns Beuerlein, Womack and sophomores Ben Nathan and Sam Lewis on the men's side and Schneider, Clark and junior Bethany Moore on the women's side.

After a great year in 2007-08, 2008-09 looks to be even better for Xavier Athletics.



photo courtesy goxavier.com

Senior setter Jenn Welsh looks to lead the Xavier Volleyball team to back-to-back NCAA Tournament appearances.

GETTING AROUND CAMPUS

Don't remember everything from the tour? Fear not. This map shows all the harder-to-get-to places at Xavier.

By Andrew Chestnut



GETTING AROUND CINCINNATI

